

Volume 9, Edition 11

Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club WIRELESS



November 2005



**VOMARC PRESIDENT JIM HILL, K6UUW
OPERATING WIAW AT ARRL HEADQUARTERS**

FROM THE TOP OF THE HILL

You probably know that Judy and I spent the month of Oct. traveling to the east coast by car. We had a great time, saw some beautiful sights and visited many friends and relatives. One of the highlights was visiting ARRL headquarters

in Newington, Ct. I got to meet many of the people that I have previously met through e-mail, but the big thrill was being able to operate their station and call sign, W1AW. I pointed the beam towards Europe and worked the following:

S51CK Slovenia LX2MG
Luxemburg
UY5EN Ukraine OK7HAM
Czechoslovakia
SM7WYS Sweden IW2NZP Italy
4Z5JM Israel EA1KE Spain
JW5YJ Svalbard SU5AZP Egypt
4K6R0S Azerbaijan GW0ANA/
Wales
RZ3AA Moscow IZ2FDU Italy

All these stations were easy to copy, some hitting 10db over S9. I will bring some pictures for a future meeting.

This month's meeting will be at the Sonoma Fire station on Second Street West. The big agenda item is the elections for next year's officers. I have a couple of nominations, but don't let that hold anyone back. If you would like to be an officer, let me know.

The program will be a presentation on the communication support by ham radio for the Baker to Vegas race. This is an annual event where relay teams from law enforcement agencies from all over the world compete. Ron Sustzar, N7TVE, will give the presentation on his group's support for the Fremont PD. Ron is also the ACS Coastal Region REOC officer. Next year's race is March 31 - April 2, 2006.

I have received a request from the Sonoma Sheriff's department for support for their team, so hopefully, after this presentation we can learn what's needed and see if anyone would like to help. I

went down a few years ago and really learned what it takes to set up a voice/data communications network out in the desert. All support vehicles are tracked by Amateur Radio APRS. The answer is "No, cell phones and CB radios don't work there." We are really talking about the "boonies"

Our December meeting will be our Christmas party at the Depot Hotel restaurant on the 14th. More details and an order form will be in the next newsletter. I hope to see you all there.

That's about it for this month. Remember that ham radio is about communicating with other hams, so keep those radios hot on these cold winter nights.
73, Jim, k6UUW

CHRISTMAS KATRINA RELIEF

The ARRL is teaming up with the Salvation to bring a happy Christmas to the boys and girls displaced or left homeless by the Gulf States hurricanes.

Ham radio clubs and individual amateurs should send new, unwrapped toys for boys and girls aged 1 to 14 to ARRL Toy Drive, 1775 Woods Blvd--Suite 12, Memphis, TN 38117-7125. Plan mailings and shipments to arrive prior to Thanksgiving, Thursday, November 24, for distribution over the holidays.

Please join me in helping out in this cause. If you would like to bring a donation, I would be glad to do the shopping.

Jim, K6UUW

ON A LIGHTER NOTE...

Two antennas met on a roof, fell in love and got married. The ceremony wasn't much, but the reception was excellent

Ed, KA6OFR

FROM THE ARRL TO FUTURE DISASTER VOLUNTEERS

Follow the instructions of those who are responsible for your deployment. If you just go on your own, even though your intentions are good, you may turn out to be part of the problem.

Secondly, before the next emergency, contact your EC and set up a jump team. This gives you the future benefit of working with people you already know. It is also easier on the person sending you if, when you are contacted, you can tell him/her the names and calls of others who will go with you.

Finally, plan ahead. Set up your jump kits in advance of the need. A radio may be lost for one bad coax connector. That radio could have been a critical communications link. Don't forget tools such as a soldering pencil. It is almost a guarantee that if you wait until the last

minute, you will forget something that will turn out to be especially needed.

SALE PAGES

Kantronics All Mode Communicator, a TNC that will do Morse (CW), RTTY, ASCII, AMTOR and Packet on HF and Packet on VHF/UHF. With manual and in good working order. \$50.00 N6KM, Ken, 707-938-2626

FREE TO A GOOD HOME

Yamaha organ. Beautiful sound and a beautiful piece of furniture.

Jim, K6UUW (935-7441)

A CLOSING NOTE

The October meeting program was a discussion about what VOMARC would like to do in 2006. Besides operating more and having more barbecues, many good suggestions were made about how we could "Elmer" our newest members better.

To accomplish that, the club will need a new appointed officer, the Elmer Coordinator, someone to match our more experienced members with our new members for help getting on the air.

Come to the November meeting ready to fight for the glory of filling that post and helping those new hams enjoy this hobby as much as the rest of us.

CU there! Ed.

THE VOMARC WIRELESS

VOLUME 9 EDITION 11

A publication of VOMARC, the Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club - W6AJF

Frank C. Jones - W6AJF

Honorary President in Perpetuity

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Jim Hill, K6UUW - President

Dan Sorrick, KG6LJN- Vice-President

Joan Brady, W6WXU - Secretary

Ken McTaggart, N6KM - Treasurer

Eileen Adams, KG6QNT, Membership Chair

Mike Miller, WB6TMH - Radio Officer

Ken McTaggart, N6KM - ACS

Jan Bush, AE6FQ - Webmeister

Joel Nadler, NN6J - VE Liaison

Darrel Jones, WD6BOR - Editor

Receipt of the Wireless is one of the most sought after benefits of membership in VOMARC.

CLUB MEETINGS are held on the third Wednesday of each month, alternating between McDougal Hall at the Sonoma Developmental Center, Eldridge, and the Sonoma Fire Station, 630 2nd Street West, Sonoma. Meetings start at 19:30 local (7:30 P.M.).

WEB PAGE:

<http://www.vomarc.org/>

Nets are held every Wednesday night at 19:30 (7:30 P.M.) local, except meeting nights on the 145.350 repeater, -600 kHz, PL 88.5 Hz.

ACS holds a net each Monday evening at 19:30 local on the 146.205, +600, PL 88.5 Hz repeater.

PACKET STATION INFO: The VOMARC packet station is on 144.910 as "SNV1EC". "SNVGW" can be used as a gateway digipeating on 223.66 MHz. The node name is "SNVND".

CLUB BREAKFASTS are held on the first Saturday of each month at Issa's Restaurant, 18999 Sonoma Highway, Sonoma. The fun starts at 09:30 local.

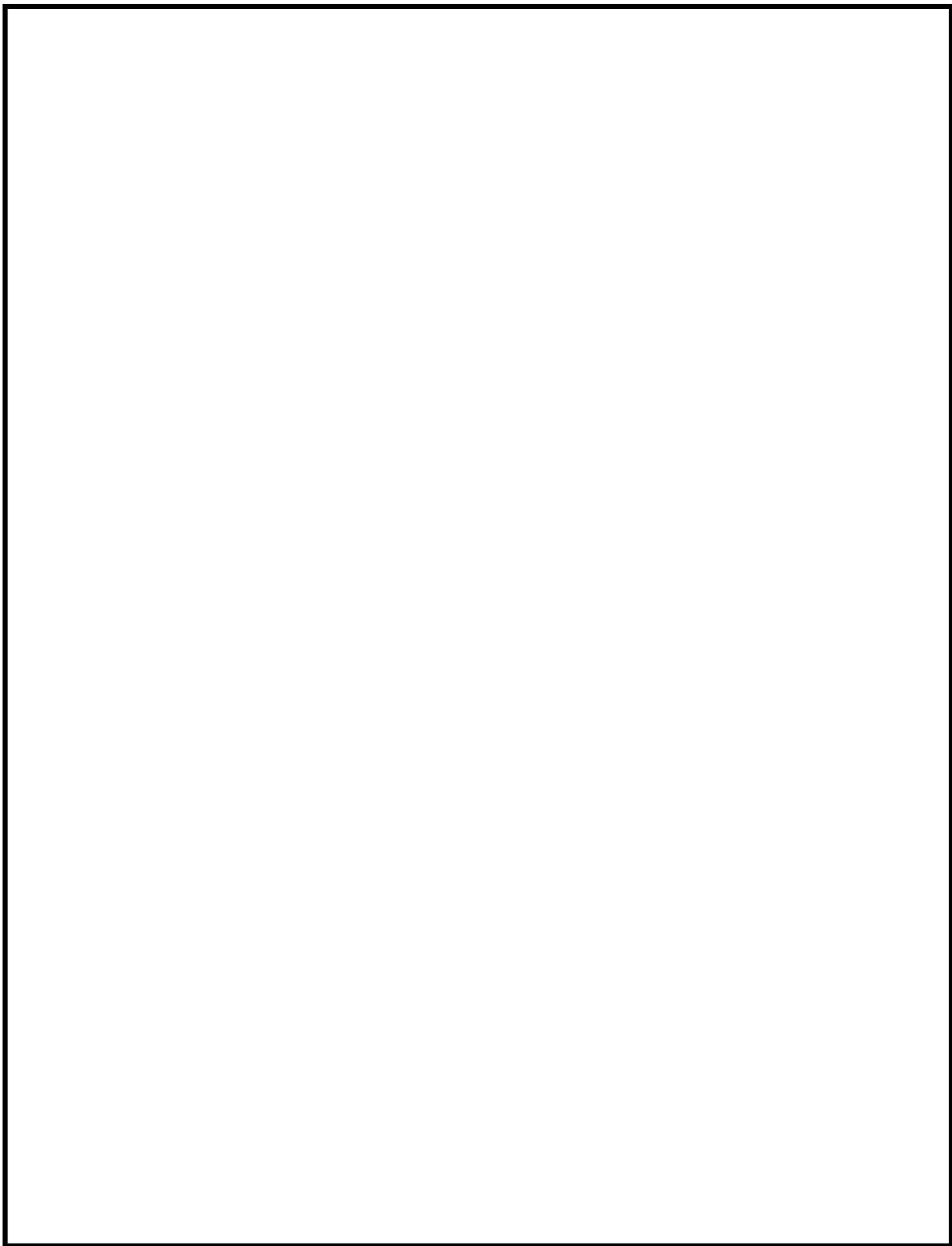
Comments and submissions of material may be sent to:

wd6bor@vom.com

Valley of the Moon ARC, Inc.

175 First Street West

Sonoma, CA 95476



**Valley of the Moon
ARC
1496 Nut Tree Lane
Sonoma, CA 95476**

**NOTICE!!! THE NEXT VOMARC MEETING WILL BE
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16 AT THE SONOMA
FIREHOUSE, 630 SECOND STREET WEST, AT 7:30 PM
CU THERE!**

VOMARC MEMBERSHIP

VOMARC 2005 Membership Dues: \$15/year individual; \$5/year family member.

VOMARC encourages its members to join the ARRL. More information is available at www.arrl.org.

QST is available to blind and physically handicapped individuals on audio cassette from the Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Call 1-800-424-8567.

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Address: _____ APT: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

VOMARC: \$ _____

Membership Moment, From the Database Queen

Please check the mailing label on this newsletter. It tells you when your VOMARC dues are due. Dues may be mailed to Ken N6KM, or Jim K6UUW, 1496 Nut Tree Lane, Sonoma, CA 95476, or brought to the next meeting. If there is any mistake, please do not shoot the messenger; email Eileen KG6QNT at Eileen@vom.com. Your check should be made payable to:

VOMARC